

REMARKS

The above-reference Office Action has been carefully reviewed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B were not received with the Office Action. The Examiner is respectfully requested to make sure that the four patents and the one non-patent literature document listed thereon appear on the cover of any patent that is issued on the present Application.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 10-181750. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection in view of the above amendment made to Claim 1. The limitations of now-cancelled Claim 10 have been included in Claim 1, rendering that claim and the claims depending therefrom allowable. The Examiner has indicated that the limitations of Claim 10 are allowable.

Claims 11-14, 17, and 19 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruchser in view of Epstein; Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruchser in view of Epstein, as applied to Claim 11, and further in view of Slack et al.; and Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruchser in view of Epstein, as applied to Claim 11, and further in view of Shirayanagi. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection in view of the above amendment made to Claim 11. The limitations of now-cancelled Claim 18 have been included in Claim 11, rendering that claim and the claims depending therefrom allowable. The Examiner has indicated that the limitations of Claim 18 are allowable.

AMENDMENT
Inventor: John Schlief

PATENT
385-102

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application, Claims 1-9, 11-17, and 19, are allowable and early action in that regard is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions as to the allowability of the claims or any suggestions with respect thereto, the undersigned would be grateful for the privilege of a telephone conference with the Examiner.

Date: April 14, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

None.